

## UNIVERSAL WASTES

Universal Wastes are a special group of hazardous wastes that must be managed to prevent release to the environment, and must be properly recycled or disposed, as required by the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. They include the following:

- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs)
- Fluorescent Lamps
- Mercury Containing Devices (such as thermometers and thermostats)
- Pesticides (FIFRA-listed, unregistered)

Recyclable Universal Wastes may be brought to the Office of the Solid Waste Department for disposal, Mon-Fri, 8am–4 pm. All Nashua residents and businesses must have a valid landfill permit to use this facility.

### ANTIFREEZE (automotive)

Antifreeze is used as an engine coolant and commonly consists of ethylene glycol or propylene glycol. Antifreeze breaks down over time and forms acids that corrode a vehicle's cooling system. During normal use, antifreeze may become contaminated with traces of fuel, metal particles, and grit. Benzene, lead, and other hazardous constituents may cause used automotive antifreeze to be characterized as a hazardous waste.

**Carefully pour off antifreeze into the designated drums at the Nashua Recycling Center.**

## HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Batteries are found in many of the electronic devices we have in our homes, businesses and public agencies. All of these batteries must eventually be disposed of, and depending on the type of battery, they can be accepted in Solid Waste Department programs.

Bring **RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES** directly to the Solid Waste Department office, 840 West Hollis Street, Mon-Fri from 8 am to 4 pm. Put each battery into a separate plastic bag:

- Nickel cadmium,
- Nickel metal hydride,
- Lithium ion, and
- Small sealed lead acid batteries

Some batteries should be managed as a **HAZARDOUS WASTE** because of their toxic contents or reactive properties. The following should be brought to a household hazardous waste event:

- Regular Lithium batteries, and
- All Button cell batteries (for safety, place button cells on a piece of tape, each separated from

the other by 1 “ and then cover them with another piece of tape).

Some batteries are considered **SOLID WASTE**, and may be put directly into the trash:

- Alkaline batteries with an expiration date after 1998,
- Heavy duty,
- Super heavy duty,
- Zinc carbon, and
- Zinc chloride batteries

### **FLUORESCENT LAMPS** (including HIDs)

Energy-efficient lighting, such as fluorescent and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps, requires less electricity to run than commonly used incandescent lights. However, these lamps, including the so called non-hazardous "[green tip](#)" lamps and compact fluorescents, contain a small quantity of mercury, lead and cadmium that can contaminate the air, soil, surface water or ground water when a lamp is broken or disposed of in a solid waste landfill or incinerator.

Nashua residents may bring **FLUORESCENT LAMPS** for recycling directly to the office of the Solid Waste Department on weekdays. Do **NOT** put duct tape around fluorescent lamps.

By law, businesses must manage spent fluorescent lamps as either a Hazardous or Universal Waste. Bulbs from Nashua businesses are accepted at the Solid Waste Department and at the Household Hazardous Waste collection events. Prior notification is required, and a nominal fee must be paid; call 589-3413 to make arrangements. Businesses should keep a record of mercury-added devices they recycle.

### **MERCURY-CONTAINING DEVICES**

Mercury is a heavy metal that can accumulate in living tissue and cause adverse health effects. A number of devices contain mercury and may pose a hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed or disposed of.

**THERMOMETERS and THERMOSTATS** and other mercury-containing devices may be brought to the office of the Solid Waste Department during normal weekday hours for proper disposal.

**Automotive Batteries and Used Motor Oil** are accepted for recycling at the  
**NASHUA RECYCLING CENTER**